

THE DANISH BRIDE WHO GAVE BRITAIN HER GREAT HEART

"Sea King's Daughter From Over Sea" Beloved of Nation.—A Gracious Queen.—Her Life Crowded With Momentous Events.—An Example to Womanhood.

The gracious lady whom we have all known as Queen Alexandra, the consort of His late Majesty King Edward VII., has been called "the most exquisite figure that has ever graced the story of the British Royal House."

Quietly and without parade or show, the King's daughter from over the sea fulfilled the high tests of her exalted station and was none the less a tender-hearted woman because she was also a Queen.

What Queen Alexandra has actually done for the British people can scarcely be computed, a thousand deeds must sink into oblivion, but she has consistently befriended women and children, the unemployed soldiers and sailors, hospitals and nurses and home industries.

It is somewhat difficult to believe that two generations have elapsed since Alexandra made her triumphant and never-to-be-forgotten entrance into the heart of the British Empire and the affections of its people.

When Alexandra went from Denmark to England in 1863 as a girl of nineteen and the bride of the heir-apparent to the British throne, she quickly won the hearts of the British people by her beauty, grace and charm.

Lord Tennyson never spoke more surely and prophetically than when he addressed the bride of 1863 in his stately "Welcome to Alexandra":

"O joy to the people and joy to the throne, Come to us, love us and make us your own, For Saxons or Danes or Normans we, Teuton or Celt or whatever we be, We are each all Dane in our welcome of thee, Alexandra!"

A STRIKING CONTRAST.

The contrast between Great Britain as it was when Alexandra entered the country as a bride, and as it was on her death, is a striking one. In 1863 there were no telephones, no automobiles, no electric lights.

Mr. Gladstone, speaking on some special royal occasion in the House of Commons, referred to the wife of the then Victor as "the Princess of Wales has permitted the nation to love her."

Charles Dickens had the same impression when, three days later, on March 10, he witnessed the Royal marriage in St. George's Chapel, Windsor. The trained eye of the great novelist saw in that radiant vision of bridal beauty moving along the nave to the altar, one destined, as he wrote, "to play her part nobly."

PLAYED HER PART NOBLY.

And right nobly did she play the part allotted to her by destiny. Picture upon picture rises from the past. We see her holding her first drawing room at St. James's Palace immediately after her marriage, with perfect dignity and ease, doing the right thing with wonderful intuition in that courtly throng of

daughter Mary was some years older than the little Dane, a great affection sprang up between them and many were the visits paid by Alexandra to Rumpenheim-on-the-Main, a long, large palace which belonged to Mary's grandfather, the Landgrave Frederick of Hesse, and where several Royal courtships were helped forward.

Many stories show how careful the young Princesses were in the matter of dress, a matter concerning which Alexandra felt a healthy interest. One Danish lady is said to have overheard her saying "Mamma, I have worn that pink often, may I not have it dyed blue?" Another is to the effect that she asked her mother why she and her sister Dagmar did not have muslin dresses such as a girl, they knew wore, and was told that that kind of muslin cost so much to get up.

The Princess wisely said no more, but later pointed out to her father the beauty of a particular muslin dress which she could not obtain. The father more sympathetic with the childish desire than with the economic barrier to its fulfillment, persuaded Princess Louise for once to give the girls the frocks they wished for.

A FATEFUL MEETING

When Prince Albert Edward, son and heir of Queen Victoria, was but nineteen, a friend drew from his pocket a photograph, intending to show the face of his betrothed, Princess Alexandra.

Two days later the Lord Mayor and other members of the Corporation on behalf of the citizens of London, presented to Princess Alexandra a diamond necklace and earrings valued at £10,000.

When Victoria attended by the Queen Mrs. Bruce, took no part whatever in the brilliant ceremonial. The bridesmaids—eight unmarried daughters of Dukes Marquises and Earls—were Lady Victoria Scott, Lady Diana Beauclerk, Lady Victoria Howard, Lady Elma Bruce, Lady Emily Villiers, Lady Agnetta York, Lady Feodorovna Wellesley and Lady Eleanor Hare.

When the Prince and Princess went to Ireland in 1868 a pair of white doves were presented in Kingston harbor to Her Royal Highness. These, later, found a home at Sandringham, where some of their descendants are still flying about.

DINNER A LA TURQUE.

In 1869 the Prince and Princess of Wales went up the Nile, and were royally entertained by Ismail Pasha, who among other luxuries gave them solid silver beds to sleep upon worth £3,000 each.

WON PEOPLE'S HEARTS.

From the day of her marriage no word other than good was said of Alexandra. Of her, many stories are told, and all alike tend to show the strength of her goodness, and her appreciation of humor.

WON PEOPLE'S HEARTS.

Early in January, 1864, the Princess, who was then living at Claremont, joined a skating party on Virginia Water, and that evening to the consternation of all a little Prince was born.

"I SHOULD LIKE TO BE LOVED"

When Prince Christian became Crown Prince his summer palace was Bersdorf, a white chateau in the woods with miles of deer forest; beyond a beautiful place both for children and elders.

PLAYED HER PART NOBLY.

And right nobly did she play the part allotted to her by destiny. Picture upon picture rises from the past. We see her holding her first drawing room at St. James's Palace immediately after her marriage, with perfect dignity and ease, doing the right thing with wonderful intuition in that courtly throng of

PLAYED HER PART NOBLY.

And right nobly did she play the part allotted to her by destiny. Picture upon picture rises from the past. We see her holding her first drawing room at St. James's Palace immediately after her marriage, with perfect dignity and ease, doing the right thing with wonderful intuition in that courtly throng of

PLAYED HER PART NOBLY.

And right nobly did she play the part allotted to her by destiny. Picture upon picture rises from the past. We see her holding her first drawing room at St. James's Palace immediately after her marriage, with perfect dignity and ease, doing the right thing with wonderful intuition in that courtly throng of

Familiar Pictures of the Late Beloved Queen Alexandra



Empire-wide grief is being expressed to the Royal Family upon the death of Queen Alexandra, at the pictures at the upper left below, in one of her most recent pictures. At the right above she is shown as she appeared at the time of her marriage to King Edward, then Prince of Wales, and below, with her husband.

Two days later the Lord Mayor and other members of the Corporation on behalf of the citizens of London, presented to Princess Alexandra a diamond necklace and earrings valued at £10,000.

SYMPATHY WITH SUFFERING.

We hear much of the Princess's kindness in visiting hospitals. Once at Great Ormond street Hospital, London, the children were discussing who had the best Christmas present.

AT SANDRINGHAM.

At Sandringham, their Norfolk home, both King and Queen (as they became in 1901) were intensely loved and respected. Many are the stories which the country people tell, not the least amusing being that of an old woman whom Alexandra found knitting stockings.

GRACIOUS TO THE LAST.

After the death of King Edward Queen Alexandra lived in retirement until the period of mourning was past; but in 1912 resumed again to some extent her public appearances. She was president of the London Hospital, and on many occasions proved by her gracious humanity, sympathy and self-sacrifice, in fact Her Majesty never displayed more graciousness than in her ceaseless activities to lighten the burden created by the Great War.

HER RECREATIONS.

Her Majesty was a great number of reactions, chief among these being music and photography. She was an accomplished pianist and a great lover of the opera. Although an excellent water-color painter, Her Majesty gave more time to photography, at which she was quite an expert.

HER FAVORITE FLOWERS.

While a lover of all flowers, it may be said that carnations and roses held first place in Queen Alexandra's heart, particularly the former, the Malmalson variety being the one she invariably favored. In fact it was due to Her Majesty wearing this flower constantly that it came to be so popular and so greatly cultivated.

HER PREFERENCES.

Soon after her marriage, Queen Alexandra wrote in a scrapbook list of her preferences:— The favorite King and Queen; Queen Dagmar and Richard Coeur de Lion.

HER FAVORITE OCCUPATION.

Nothing in connection with the Royal Family has more endeared them to the people than their affection one for the other. There is indeed grief in the Royal Palace this day at this leave-taking of the late Queen Mother. It has been obvious for a number of years that the Queen Mother, model as she was for all the womanhood of the nation in her high ideals of personal character, her gentleness of nature, her gentle and generous heart, was gradually weakening physically, and about a year ago it was formally announced that she would no longer be seen at public functions.

HER FAVORITE MOTTO.

"If a star were confined into a tomb Her captive flame must needs burn there. But when the Hand that locked her up gives room She'll shine through all the spheres."

THE CORONATION.

The long reign of Queen Victoria closed with her lamented death on January 22, 1901. The coronation of King Edward and Queen Alexandra took place in Westminster Abbey on the morning of August 9, 1902. The scene was even more brilliant than that of their wedding. The Queen, perhaps the most beautiful and dignified of all the Queens crowned in Westminster, was anointed upon the head only, and was both crowned and anointed kneeling.

Early in 1906, King Christian of Denmark was taken ill at luncheon and died during the same afternoon, and Queen Alexandra with her two sons, the widowed Emperor of Russia (the late Emperor Nicholas II.) and the Duchess of Cumberland, went to attend the funeral. When the coffin was carried from the palace to the church the last tribute to be taken from it was a large cross entwined with delicate pink roses, white lilies and other flowers.

DEATH OF KING EDWARD.

After a reign of ten years, King Edward VII died, on May 6, 1910. The Queen bore up wonderfully under the blow. The married life of Their Majesties had been a singularly happy one. Numerous series illustrative of the devotedness of Their Majesties to one another are current, but none perhaps which impressed more powerfully the popular imagination than that which told of the ceaseless vigil maintained by the Queen and the unending anxiety which she manifested during the terrible weeks of suspense which preceded the postponement of the coronation.

HER RECREATIONS.

Her Majesty was a great number of reactions, chief among these being music and photography. She was an accomplished pianist and a great lover of the opera. Although an excellent water-color painter, Her Majesty gave more time to photography, at which she was quite an expert.

HER FAVORITE FLOWERS.

While a lover of all flowers, it may be said that carnations and roses held first place in Queen Alexandra's heart, particularly the former, the Malmalson variety being the one she invariably favored. In fact it was due to Her Majesty wearing this flower constantly that it came to be so popular and so greatly cultivated.

HER PREFERENCES.

Soon after her marriage, Queen Alexandra wrote in a scrapbook list of her preferences:— The favorite King and Queen; Queen Dagmar and Richard Coeur de Lion.

HER FAVORITE OCCUPATION.

Nothing in connection with the Royal Family has more endeared them to the people than their affection one for the other. There is indeed grief in the Royal Palace this day at this leave-taking of the late Queen Mother. It has been obvious for a number of years that the Queen Mother, model as she was for all the womanhood of the nation in her high ideals of personal character, her gentleness of nature, her gentle and generous heart, was gradually weakening physically, and about a year ago it was formally announced that she would no longer be seen at public functions.

HER FAVORITE MOTTO.

"If a star were confined into a tomb Her captive flame must needs burn there. But when the Hand that locked her up gives room She'll shine through all the spheres."